

Amendment No. 9 to HB1532

**McMillan
Signature of Sponsor**

FILED

Date _____

Time _____

Clerk _____

Comm. Amdt. _____

AMEND Senate Bill No. 1315*

House Bill No. 1532

by adding the following new section immediately preceding the last section and by renumbering the subsequent section accordingly:

SECTION _____. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 49-4-9__.

(a) To be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant, a student shall:

(1) Not be ineligible for the grant under § 49-4-904;

(2) Meet the requirements of § 49-4-905;

(3) Apply for a Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant and file a FAFSA; and

(4) Be admitted to and enroll in an eligible public postsecondary institution.

(b) This section shall apply to a student who:

(1) Was in state custody for at least one (1) year after reaching fourteen (14) years of age;

(2) Was in state custody for at least one (1) year after reaching fourteen (14) years of age and placed for adoption by the department of children's services or one of its adoption contract agencies and the adoption was finalized; or

(3) Was in state custody for at least one (1) year and placed in permanent guardianship by the department of children's services after reaching fourteen (14) years of age.

(c) The student shall present TSAC with official certification from the department of children's services that the student meets the eligibility requirement for the tuition grant.

(d) The student shall be eligible for the Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant:

(1) For entrance to an eligible public postsecondary institution for a period of no more than four (4) years after the date of graduation from high school or equivalent; and

(2) For a period of six (6) years after admittance to an eligible public postsecondary institution, if satisfactory progress is achieved and maintained.

(e) A Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant may only be used towards the costs of tuition, maintenance fees, student activity fees and required registration or matriculation fees at the eligible public postsecondary institution the student attends.

(f) Before a Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant may be awarded, a student shall apply for all available financial aid, including, but not limited to, the Tennessee HOPE scholarship or Tennessee HOPE access grant, if eligible, and funds provided through the Federal Foster Care Independence Act of 1999, if applicable. All financial assistance available to a student, other than the Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant, shall be applied to the student's total cost of attendance, as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1087II, prior to the granting of a Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant. A Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant shall cover any costs of tuition, maintenance fees, student activity fees and required registration or matriculation fees remaining after applying all other student financial assistance from all sources towards the student's cost of attendance. Notwithstanding any provision of title 49, chapter 4, part 9 to the contrary, a Tennessee HOPE scholarship or Tennessee HOPE access grant awarded to a student eligible for a Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant may be used for the cost of room and board, which shall not exceed the maximum cost of room and board

provided through the facilities of the eligible public postsecondary institution that the student is attending.

(g) Nothing in this section shall be construed to:

(1) Guarantee acceptance of or entrance into any eligible public postsecondary institution for youth in or formerly in the custody of the state; or

(2) Limit the participation of a youth in or formerly in the custody of the state in any other program of financial assistance for postsecondary education.